

Title: VESO's Thomas Green receives top honor



Mr. Thomas Green, III of the Veteran Employment Services Office (VESO) was recently honored by the Fayetteville Observer's Top 40 Under Forty publication as a rising leader for his business success and community impact. Mr. Green serves as a Regional Veteran Employment Coordinator in VESO helping Veterans become career ready to compete for employment opportunities in the VA and other agencies. Thomas is a native of Florida; however, he has resided in Fayetteville, NC for the last nine years by way of joining the United States Army. In 2004, Thomas was involved in a vehicle

accident caused by an Improvised Explosive Device. He spent months at Walter Reed Army Medical Center recovering from his injuries (Traumatic Brain Injury). He later earned a Purple Heart for his combat injuries. In addition to working in VESO, Thomas released his first book, "Sometimes We Fall as Boys but Rise as Men: The Healing of a Purple Heart" and was commissioned by God to preach the Gospel in 2011. Minister Green serves as a Peer Mentor to Veterans returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan who may be facing hardships as a result of their physical and mental injuries. He is devoted to traveling throughout the nation and speaking at various events to include Leadership Graduations for VA, elementary and high schools to inspire kids of all ages, as well as visiting community centers and churches sharing his testimony and advising people on returning home from war. In 2011, he was recognized as a Champion of Change honoree for fatherhood by President Obama.

The Fayetteville Observer honors 40 of the area's rising leaders for their business success and community impact. Honorees come from several counties in North Carolina and will be recognized during a formal awards ceremony held in their honor on March 28, 2014. The honorees will also be documented in a special keepsake 40 Under Forty publication and at fayobserver.com.